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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/22/2007

SPONSOR Altamirano LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE WNMU ATHLETIC PROGRAM NEEDS SB 125

ANALYST McOlash

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$427.5	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

New Mexico Department of Higher Education (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 125 appropriates \$427,500 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of Western New Mexico University (WNMU) for expenditure in FY 2008 and FY 2009 to fund increased travel expenses, conference commitments, staffing and equipment needs, and gender equity requirements in athletic programs.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$427,500 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2009 shall revert to the general Fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Associate Athletic Director, WNMU recently joined the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC). Membership in the RMAC allows representation for all the university's sports programs, unlike other conferences. The sports conference requires travel further

than the university is accustomed into the states of Colorado and Nebraska. Additional funding would pay for extended travel requirements, full-time permanent coaches (instead of part-time temporary), sports equipment, and an expansion of existing sports activities to include women.

A proposal of \$427,500 was submitted to the New Mexico Higher Education Department by WNMU as an increase to FY07 recurring funding. The HED recommended a funding level of \$1,882,900 for WNMU athletics - an increase of \$250,000.

BM/nt:mt